



Potential costs and benefits of adaptation options: A review of existing literature

Author(s): United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
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Abstract:

Summary Building on recent reviews on the costs and benefits of adaptation, this technical paper analyses the general methodological issues for estimating the costs and benefits of adaptation options, reviews new studies on the economics of adaptation in light of these methodological issues, and discusses the strengths and weaknesses of the studies and methods. Key findings from the paper include: the benefits of adopting multiple methods and approaches, including non-monetary ones, in accordance with the objectives of the assessment and the types of adaptation options to be assessed; the need for further methodology development, including in relation to the treatment of uncertainty, economic valuation and equity; and the continued lack of detailed analyses of the costs and benefits of adaptation, including in a form that is relevant to decisions on public funding. Parties may use the information contained in this technical paper as they consider implementing adaptation action under the Convention, including in the work under the Nairobi work programme, and particularly on its work area on socio-economic information. In addition, improved understanding and capacity for addressing the costs and benefits of adaptation is an important pillar in implementing enhanced action on adaptation at all levels.

Source: <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/tp/02.pdf>

Resource Description

Climate Scenario :

specification of climate scenario (set of assumptions about future states related to climate)

Special Report on Emissions Scenarios (SRES)

Special Report on Emissions Scenarios (SRES) Scenario: SRES A1, SRES A2, SRES B2

Early Warning System:

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

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Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Quality, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Precipitation, Sea Level Rise, Temperature

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding, Landslides

Food/Water Quality: Other Water Quality Issue

Water Quality (other): Saltwater intrusion

Food/Water Security: Agricultural Productivity, Fisheries

Temperature: Fluctuations

Geographic Feature: 

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Freshwater, Ocean/Coastal, Urban, Other Geographical Feature

Other Geographical Feature : Forests

Geographic Location: 

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation): 

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

A focus of content

Health Impact: 

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cardiovascular Effect, Infectious Disease, Injury, Morbidity/Mortality, Other Health Impact

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Vectorborne Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, Other Diarrheal Disease

Vectorborne Disease: General Vectorborne, Mosquito-borne Disease

Mosquito-borne Disease: Malaria

Other Health Impact: Thermal stress

Mitigation/Adaptation: 

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Model/Methodology: 

type of model used or methodology development is a focus of resource

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Cost/Economic, Exposure Change Prediction, Methodology

Resource Type:

format or standard characteristic of resource

Research Article, Review

Resilience:

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale:

time period studied

Long-Term (>50 years)